

REMARKS

Independent claims 1, 9, and 24 are amended for purposes of clarification and expediting prosecution. Claims 23 and 42 are amended to correct minor inadvertent typographical errors. Applicant thanks the Examiner for his close reading of the claims and noting these minor informalities. Independent claim 28 is amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 34 (now cancelled) and the limitations of the intervening claims. Independent claim 35 is amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 39; however, the limitations of intervening claim 38 are not included in claim 35 since they are understood to be unnecessary for patentability. Claims 15, 26, 32-34, and 39 are cancelled, and various dependent claims are amended for consistency with the independent claims. Claims 1-14, 16-25, 27-31, 35-38, and 40-44 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The title of the invention has been amended to make the title more descriptive.

The rejections of claims 9-23 and 35-44 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraphs, should be withdrawn in view of the amendments to the claims.

The Office Action does not establish that claims 9, 10, 12-16, 21, 23 and 24 are unpatentable under 35 USC §103(a) over "Gadre" (U.S. Patent No. 6,308,253 to Gadre et al.). The rejection is respectfully traversed because the Office Action fails to show that all the limitations are suggested by the references and fails to provide a proper motivation for modifying the teachings of Gadre. For example, there is no apparent programmable logic device taught by Gadre. Gadre apparently teaches a CPU that is referred to as a "programmable controller" that executes software (col. 3, l. 1-5; col. 9, l. 17-19). However, the rejection is now moot in view of the amendments to the claims. Therefore, the rejection of claims 9, 10, 12-16, 21, 23 and 24 should be withdrawn.

The Office Action does not establish that claims 1-5, 7, 8, 11, 18-20, 22, 25-33, 35-38 and 42-44 are unpatentable under 35 USC §103(a) over Gadre in view of "Dao" (U.S. Patent No. 3,838,393 to Dao et al.), in view of "Ito" (U.S. Patent No. 4,829,460 to Ito), and further in view of "Gove" (U.S. Patent No. 5,606,520 to Gove et al.). The rejection is respectfully traversed because the Office Action fails to show that all the

limitations are suggested by the references and fails to provide proper motivations for combining the teachings of Gadre, Dao, Ito, and Gove. The rejection is moot, however, in view of the amendments to the claims.

Claim 1, for example, includes limitations of at least one of the constant modes causing each bit of the half-word literal field to be duplexed into two adjacent bits in the full-length data word. This duplexing of one bit into two adjacent bits by an immediate instruction function is not understood to be suggested by the prior art. Independent claims 9 and 24 include similar limitations. Therefore, claims 1-5, 7, 8, 11, 18-20, 22, 25-33, 35-38 and 42-44 are thought to be patentable over the Gadre-Dao-Ito-Gove combination, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and a notice of allowance are respectfully requested in view of the Amendments and Remarks presented above. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned is invited.

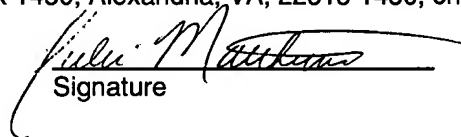
Respectfully submitted,



Justin Liu
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No.: 51,959
(408) 879-4641

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, on May 5, 2006.

Julie Matthews
Name


Signature